

(a) the number of villages having post offices in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the number of Post offices opened in the State during 1996-97 and proposed to be opened during 1997-98; and

(c) the time by which all the villages in the State are likely to be provided postal facilities?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) The number of villages having post offices in the State is 14753.

(b) The number of post offices opened during 1996-97 is as under:-

—Sub Post Offices: 6

—Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices: 6

A target of opening 10 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices and 2 Departmental Sub Post Offices has been fixed for the year 1997-98.

(c) Post offices are opened progressively under Annual Plans on norm based justification subject to availability of target and resources. As mentioned in (b) above, there is a target of opening 10 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices in the State of Andhra Pradesh in 1997-98.

Applications For New Telephone Connections in M.P.

6447. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL: Will the

Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applicants for new connections in different S.D.T.O. Circles under Hoshangabad and Betul districts of Madhya Pradesh during the last 2 years;

(b) the number of applicants provided new telephone connections and the number of applicants still under the waiting list of the said S.D.O.T. Circles;

(c) the reasons for the delay by the relevant sub-divisional officers;

(d) the approximate period required for clearing the waiting lists; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) and (b) The required information is given in the statement.

(c) The reasons for delay are non receipt of materials and other equipments in time.

(d) The waiting list is likely to be cleared by March, 1998.

(e) It is proposed to increase switching capacity in Hoshangabad Telecom District by about 5000 lines and switching capacity in Betul Telecom District by about 3000 lines during 1997-98.

Statement

SDOT/SDOP	No. of applicants for new connections during Year		New telephone connections provided during Year		No. of applicants still on waiting list as on 1.4.97
	1995-96	1996-97	1995-96	1996-97	
Telecom District Manager Hoshangabad:-					
SDOP	490	588	183	631	667
Itarsi					
SDOT	330	309	53	334	346
Harda					
SDOT	30	18	29	417	59
Piparia					
SDOP	534	219	146	894	286
Hoshangabad					
Telecom District Engineer Betul:-					
SDOT	241	30	411	176	30
Betul					
SDOP	0	369	0	54	369
Betul					
SDOT	182	961	299	360	919
Multai					